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/Erin Cowles/  
Erin Cowles

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/527,931  
Applicant : Mathieu et al.  
Filed : March 17, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 3726  
Examiner : Rick K. Chang

Conf. No.: 3919

Docket No. : P114-US

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

To Whom It May Concern:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). Applicants ask that the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be initialed and returned in accordance with MPEP §609. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

**COMMONLY OWNED, RELATED U.S. PATENTS AND APPLICATIONS**

**Applicants note that citation number(s) 1, 3, and 4 in the attached listing are U.S. patent(s) or application(s) that are commonly owned with the above-identified patent application and may contain subject matter that is related to the subject matter of the above-identified patent application.** The Examiner's attention is therefore directed to the prosecution history of the foregoing related U.S. patent(s) and patent application(s) and prior art cited in these patent(s) and patent application(s); Applicants assume the Examiner has access to all of the prosecution history, including the cited prior art, of these patents(s) and patent application(s), but Applicants will provide copies of all or any part of the prosecution history of or prior art from any of these patent(s) or patent application(s) upon request.

**NOTE**

Applicants note that citation no. 5 in the attached listing was noted in an Information Disclosure Statement mailed by Applicants no April 4, 2002 and received by the PTO on April 8, 2002. Applicants have discovered an English language abstract of the citation and for this reason include it in this Information Disclosure Statement and provide a copy of the English language abstract.

- ☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):
- ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)); or
  - ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage; or
  - ☐ It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits; or
  - ☐ It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.
- ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed three months after the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application and the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:
- ☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
  - ☒ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:
- a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**
  - a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

*Fee:*

- ☐ No fee is due.
- ☐ A check that includes \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☒ Payment is provided by credit card.
- ☐ This statement is filed as one part of a multi-part submission. The fee for the complete submission was included in an electronically filed submission on \_\_. Applicants request the foregoing fee be accepted for this statement. (See OG Notice dated 17 September 2002.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 15, 2008

By /N. Kenneth Burraston/  
N. Kenneth Burraston  
Reg. No. 39,923

Kirton & McConkie  
P.O. Box 45120  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0120  
Telephone: (801) 426-2106  
Fax: (801) 321-4893